

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application: _____

1 Claim 1 (previously presented): A method of providing
2 a call forwarding and a voice mail service, comprising:
3 storing, in a call processing record accessible
4 by a service control point, information on the amount of
5 time a telephone is allowed to ring before an unanswered
6 call to the telephone is forwarded;
7 storing, in said call processing record, a
8 telephone number to which the unanswered call is to be
9 forwarded, said telephone number corresponding to one of
10 a telephone and a voice mail system;
11 and
12 modifying said stored information on the amount
13 of time a telephone is allowed to ring based on
14 information received by said voice mail system; and
15 forwarding a call to said telephone after the
16 telephone rings for said amount of time.

1 Claim 3 (previously presented): The method of claim 2,
2 wherein the stored information on the amount of time a
3 telephone is allowed to ring is a ring count and wherein
4 said interactive peripheral device includes an interface
5 for receiving ring count information from said service
6 subscriber via a telephone.

1 Claim 4 (previously presented): The method of claim 2,
2 further comprising updating said stored information on
3 the amount of time a telephone is allowed to ring based
4 on information received via the Internet.

1 Claim 5 (previously presented): The method of claim 1
2 wherein storing information on the amount of time a
3 telephone is allowed to ring before a call to the
4 telephone is forwarded includes:
5 receiving ring count information from a
6 telephone service subscriber; and
7 storing the ring count information in said call
8 processing record.

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1 Claim 6 (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 2,~~
2 ~~further comprising: A method of providing a call~~
3 forwarding and a voice mail service, comprising:
4 storing, in a call processing record accessible
5 by a service control point, information on the amount of
6 time a telephone is allowed to ring before an unanswered
7 call to the telephone is forwarded;
8 storing, in said call processing record, a
9 telephone number to which the unanswered call is to be

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10 forwarded, said telephone number corresponding to one of
11 a telephone and a voice mail system, said voice mail
12 system is separate from an interactive peripheral device
13 through which call forwarding service information can be
14 updated by a telephone call to said interactive
15 peripheral device;

16 modifying said stored information on the amount
17 of time a telephone is allowed to ring based on
18 information received by said voice mail system; and
19 forwarding a call to said telephone after the
20 telephone rings for said amount of time;

21 modifying said stored information on the amount of
22 time a telephone is allowed to ring based on information
23 received by said interactive peripheral device as part of
24 a telephone call; and

25 storing information in the call processing
26 record used to implement at least two different call
27 forwarding services, said two different call forwarding
28 services including at least one service wherein an
29 unanswered call is sequentially forwarded when unanswered
30 based on a list of multiple call forwarding telephone
31 numbers stored in said call processing record and a call
32 forwarding on no answer service wherein said unanswered
33 call is forwarded to said voice mail system when said
34 call forwarding on no answer service is active, said call
35 processing record including at least one indicator
36 indicating which of said call forwarding services is
37 active at a given point in time, information stored in
38 said call processing record associated with said call
39 forwarding on no answer service being updatable via said

40 voice mail system, information in said call processing
41 record corresponding to said sequential call forwarding
42 being updateable via said interactive peripheral device.

1 Claim 7 (previously presented): The method of claim 2,
2 wherein prior to forwarding said call the method further
3 comprises:

4 setting a trigger on a telephone line coupled
5 to said telephone;

6 in response to activation of said trigger by a
7 call directed to said telephone, sending a message to a
8 service control point;

9 receiving a control message from said service
10 control point; and

11 in response to said message setting a timer
12 used to measure the amount of time the telephone rings.

1 Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 7, further
2 comprising:

3 in response to the timer reaching said amount
4 of time a telephone is allowed to ring, sending another
5 message to the service control point; and

6 receiving a message from the service control
7 point including a telephone number to be used to forward
8 said call.

1 Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 8, further
2 comprising:

3 operating the service control point to use a
4 next event list to determine the telephone number to be
5 used to forward said call.

Claims 10-17 (canceled)

1 ~~Claim 18~~ (previously presented): A telephone system
2 capable of forwarding a call directed to a telephone,
3 comprising:

4 a service control point including information
5 on the amount of time said telephone should be allowed to
6 ring before forwarding a call directed to said telephone
7 to another destination;

8 a telephone switch coupled to said control
9 point and to said telephone for detecting the amount of
10 time said telephone rings and for forwarding calls;

11 an interactive peripheral device coupled to
12 said telephone switch for receiving calls used to control
13 call forwarding operations, said interactive peripheral
14 device including means for receiving information via a
15 telephone call and means for updating said information on
16 the amount of time a telephone should be allowed to ring
17 as a function of information received via a telephone
18 call; and

19 a voice mail system coupled to said service
20 control point, said voice mail system including means for
21 updating said information on the amount of time a
22 telephone should be allowed to ring as a function of
23 information received by said voice mail system via a
24 telephone call.

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1 Claim 19 (original): The telephone system of claim
2 18, further comprising:

3 a plurality of call processing records stored
4 at said service control point, one of said call
5 processing records corresponding to said telephone and
6 including said information on the amount of time said
7 telephone should be allowed to ring.

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1 Claim 20 (currently amended): ~~The telephone system of~~
2 ~~claim 19, A telephone system capable of forwarding a call~~
3 ~~directed to a telephone, comprising:~~

4 a service control point including information
5 on the amount of time said telephone should be allowed to
6 ring before forwarding a call directed to said telephone
7 to another destination;

8 a telephone switch coupled to said control
9 point and to said telephone for detecting the amount of
10 time said telephone rings and for forwarding calls;

11 an interactive peripheral device coupled to
12 said telephone switch for receiving calls used to control
13 call forwarding operations, said interactive peripheral
14 device including means for receiving information via a
15 telephone call and means for updating said information on
16 the amount of time a telephone should be allowed to ring
17 as a function of information received via a telephone
18 call;

19 a plurality of call processing records stored
20 at said service control point, one of said call
21 processing records corresponding to said telephone and
22 including said information on the amount of time said

23 telephone should be allowed to ring, wherein said one of
24 said call processing records includes a set of
25 information corresponding to a call forwarding on no
26 answer service and another set of information
27 corresponding to a sequential call forwarding service
28 wherein an unanswered call is sequentially forwarded to
29 telephone numbers included in a list; and
30 a voice mail system coupled to said service
31 control point, said voice mail system including means for
32 updating said information on the amount of time a
33 telephone should be allowed to ring as a function of
34 information received by said voice mail system via a
35 telephone call.

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1 Claim 21 (previously presented): The telephone system
2 of claim 20, further comprising: a server coupled to the
3 Internet and to the service control point for allowing a
4 telephone service subscriber to set the amount of time a
5 call is allowed to ring via information transmitted over
6 the Internet.

Claims 22-24 (canceled)